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sun
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leads to debut
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A powerful
woman
exclusive
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THE COLLEGIAN

Volume 62

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Monday

March 22, 2010

University aims make better use of ITECC

By David Boon
Staff Writer

After \$17 million in renovations, the university is pushing to more completely utilize the International Technology, Education and Commerce Center, prompting some questions about the support the facility has to offer.

ITECC had undergone renovations that were completed in Fall 2009. But the facility has 230,166 of its available 560,283 square feet unused, spurring the

provost's office to ask some departments to make the move to the former shopping mall on Mexico Boulevard.

"We have exceptionally attractive space there, and over time, I'm trying to find the right balance between the Fort Brown campus and the ITECC campus, because there's space pressures here on Fort Brown campus, and at the same time, there's open space on ITECC campus," Provost Alan Artibise said.

While some renovations would need to be made, the College of Applied

Technology and General Studies and the

Do you think the Communication Department and Developmental classes should move to ITECC?

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Communication Department are under consideration for the move, Artibise said.

"That is very much under consideration, to move the College of Applied Technology and General Studies and the developmental faculty to ITECC," he said. "We're looking at getting the appropriate classrooms and computer labs, which requires some renovation, and similarly with [the] Communication [Department]. So, there's some cost associated with this; we're working through the budget with the [Texas Southmost College] board and

• See 'ITECC,' Page 16

Rubio 'ineligible' for trustee race--again

Reprinted from *The Collegian Online*

By Julianna Sosa
Collegian Editor
and Christine Cavazos
Staff Writer

UTB/TSC graduate student Joe Lee Rubio again has filed for candidacy in the Texas Southmost College District board of trustees elections, and again has been declared ineligible to run for office, district officials say.

On March 8, Rubio filed for candidacy in the Place 3 trustee race, Kim Sanchez, operations and services manager for the TSC District Office, said in an e-mail to *The Collegian*. The election is scheduled for May 8.

The district sent Rubio a letter of denial via certified mail and hand delivery on March 9, the same day TSC officials conducted a drawing to determine the order of the candidates' names on the ballot.

This is Rubio's third attempt to be

• See 'Rubio,' Page 14

Going virtual



SCREEN CAPTURE

An avatar explores UTB/TSC's Second Life 'campus.' See story, Page 13.

Enrollment up 9.4 percent; registration lags analyzed

By Rene Cardona Jr.
Staff Writer

Non-dual enrollment at UTB/TSC has increased by about 9.4 percent over last spring, and an ongoing effort to curb registration lags is trying to accommodate

this growth, officials say.

A total of 11,608 non-Dual Enrollment students are enrolled at UTB/TSC for Spring 2010, a slight decrease from earlier in the semester when 11,782 non-Dual students were registered. But that's still a 9.35 percent rise from Spring 2009, when 10,615 students were enrolled, according

to data from the Office of the Registrar.

René Villarreal, the interim associate vice president for Enrollment Management and director of Admissions, said this number has stayed about the same thanks to a change in payment obtainment efforts by the Business Office.

"We had a difficulty with students

making payment, so ... the Business Office did a really good job of helping us contact the students who had a balance," Villarreal said. "We tried to personalize and offer some installment options."

When Dual Enrollment students are

• See 'Enroll,' Page 16

Scorpion Academy



MARCH 23 - APRIL 2

MONDAY 22 Call and Registration	TUESDAY 23 SET-B Lecture Hall 6-6:30 p.m. Welcome SGA Introduction 7-8 p.m. Campus Police	WEDNESDAY 24 SET-B Lecture Hall 7-9 p.m. District Attorney's Office Crime Victims Unit Domestic Violence Unit	THURSDAY 25 LHSB Rm. 1.104 7-9 p.m. Brownsville PD Lt. Oscar Maldonado and Sgt. Rolando Avitia (SIMULATOR)	FRIDAY 26 Salon Cassia (EDBC) 7-8 p.m. Drug Enforcement Agency - Agent Delaunay 8-9 p.m. Integrated Global Knowledge & Understanding Collaboration
MONDAY 29 EIDMAN 106 7-9 p.m. Crime Scene Investigation* Dr. Michael Lytle *Bring digital cameras	TUESDAY 30 SET-B (3rd floor) 7-8 p.m. Criminal Justice Institute Mr. Hector Ramos	WEDNESDAY 31 7-9 p.m. Firing Range and Firearm Safety (Tentative)	THURSDAY 1 7-9 p.m. South Lawn BISD K-9 Unit & Brownsville PD Bomb Squad	FRIDAY 2 SET-B (3rd floor) Noon Closing Ceremony Pick up Certificate and Scorpion Academy T-shirt

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 - * Complete Scorpion Academy application (online or paper application)
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MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College Student Government Association and Campus Police Scorpion Academy's mission is to provide students with a sophisticated training and education program designated to give out paramount law enforcement experience, as well as, a broad-spectrum look into the justice system and how it works.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this two-week academy is intended to accustom students with the law enforcements' function in the criminal justice system as well as explain the responsibilities of a law enforcement officer. Scorpion Academy is designed to enhance the understanding of the campus community through its students on the concepts of a problem-solving project and practices. With this knowledge, skills and comprehension, the university and the campus community will discover realistic solutions to their problems.

For more information, please contact the SGA Office at 882-5877 or e-mail rosalinda.rangel10@utb.edu

Good news, bad news

SGA bands together as budget shortfalls appear

By David Boon
Staff Writer

The Student Government Association saw highs and lows during their meeting March 11, when they moved forward in their service to the students in the face of an unexpectedly low budget of \$4,500.

During the officer reports section of the meeting, Vice President of Accounting and Finance Arturo Guerra announced that the budget, which had not been reconciled since January, was smaller than anticipated. Guerra also stated that the figure was not yet fully reconciled.

The Collegian spoke with Dean of Students and Associate Vice President of Student Affairs Mari Fuentes-Martin on March 12 concerning the budget, who confirmed that the yearly budget was \$30,000.

“In the very first SGA meeting back in August, they passed Resolution 2, which was kind of an overview of the budget allocation, which included wages, money for programming, money for marketing, money for forms, etc.,” said Fuentes-Martin, who is also an SGA adviser. “A lot of that was not being used as originally allocated. ... For example, Halloween Extravaganza

didn’t happen, and I think they had allocated \$2,500 for that, but they did reallocate some of that to Halloween Havoc in supporting some events. Homecoming wasn’t an item in there. They ended up funding flu vaccines as another option. ... I think their sense was that there was a bunch of money left over.

“They’re not in the red by any means, but they’re not as well off as I think they think they might be.”

After Guerra’s early report in the March 11 meeting, the budget was brought up at every turn.

When Resolution 7, which calls for the purchase of 500 Scantrons for student distribution, was set to be amended to purchase an additional 500 Scantrons, the question was how the \$72 purchase would be allocated.

“The amendment is to double the initial order,” said Vice President of Administration David Polin. “On Oct. 1, we ordered 500 Scantrons. ... The approximate total was \$69.94. Therefore, back in October, we approved the allocation of \$72 for Scantrons. The Scantrons were stamped with an SGA logo and they were distributed, all 500, to students at various events, at various functions.”

President Ruby de la Fuente asked if instead the money could be taken from the general allocation for office supplies, rather than being tacked on an old amendment.

“We have Resolution 2, which is the allocation of the money--it hasn’t been taken into consideration with all the spending, so we cannot take money from a specific part yet, until the account is reconciled,” Guerra said.

Polin questioned Guerra as to where the money should be drawn from. However, with a copy of the resolution not available, the money would have to be drawn from the general account and then reallocated later.

The amendment to the resolution passed unanimously.

Priscilla Rocha, College of Liberal Arts senator, asked to allocate 200 of the forms for handing out during finals week.

“Since we do hand them out during events, like popcorn, we tend to forget, but since we’re going to do Food for Thought later, I would like to keep at least 200,” said Rocha, who had earlier proposed to add food to the handouts during finals.

Resolution 26, which calls for the co-sponsorship of Dingbat Productions’ play “The Phantom Tollbooth,” was also brought



MANUEL REYNA/COLLEGIAN

Senior biology major and President of Dingbat Productions Arthur Gonzalez asks the SGA to increase the allocation of funds for his theatrical production of “The Phantom Tollbooth” during the March 11 meeting.

forward for amendment to increase the \$500 allocation tp a maximum of \$2,000. However, since the student organization was not in need of the money until after Spring Break, the resolution was tabled until such a

• See ‘SGA,’ Page 16

Conservationist talks about environmental challenges

By Christine Cavazos
Staff Writer

Ford Foundation Chair Kathryn S. Fuller talked to an audience about the environmental losses and challenges during this semester’s Distinguished Lecture Series.

Fuller talked to an audience of about 300 people gathered March 11 in the SET-B Lecture Hall.

The former president and CEO of the World Wildlife Fund mentioned some of the environmental losses and challenges of the planet.

“The sad truth is that the natural world is disappearing everywhere before our eyes,” Fuller said. “Half of the great tropical forests have been cleared, among the last global frontiers. Species of plants and animals are disappearing a hundred times more or faster than before the coming of humanity. We have driven atmosphere carbon dioxide to the highest levels for at least 200,000 years and contributed to a global warming that will ultimately be bad news everywhere.”

She said the conservation movement began to take shape in the early 20th century and became more formalized after World War II with the



ELIZABETH A. PEREZ/COLLEGIAN

Kathryn S. Fuller, chair of the Ford Foundation and a former president and CEO of the World Wildlife Fund, says plant and animal species are disappearing at an alarming rate. Fuller was the guest speaker for the Distinguished Lecture Series, held March 11 in the SET-B Lecture Hall.

establishment of new organizations such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Fuller gave an example to show how far conservation communities have gone to protect the environment.

“There were a couple of major summits—one in 1991, the other in 2005—that brought together the heads of seven Central African countries and

their ministers to look at the problems of forest conservation broadly,” she said. “They agreed to an ambitious seven targets, a commitment to set aside 10 percent of the regions’ forests as parks to end illegal logging. The goal has been exceeded, more than 1 million acres have been protected.”

She said stopping nature’s losses requires many tools.

“To be successful these days in conservation, you need to be part biologist, part economist, part diplomat, part social scientist and part international finance expert,” Fuller said. “The job of saving nature is truly daunting and it’s never truly over. ... It’s a job that I would urge each and every one of us to take on, to learn about the issues, to speak up, to take action.”

During the question-and-answer portion of the lecture, a member of the audience asked Fuller which country had been the most successful in its environmental conservation projects.

“The country that probably stands out as the most successful is Bhutan, the Himalayan kingdom that sits between China and India,” Fuller replied. “It is a country that has as part of its philosophy, a commitment not to gross national product but to gross national


happiness—that is the measurement of success in Bhutan. Bhutan is heavily forested, it’s quite remote, it has pledged, and successfully so, to keep 60 percent of the country in forest cover. ... How is that possible? Well, it is a small land-locked kingdom in the Himalayas.”

At the end of the lecture, Jason Moody, president of the UTB/TSC Alumni Association, presented Fuller with a Scorpion cap as a token of appreciation.


Hannah Niño, a freshman art education major, said she enjoyed the lecture.


“I thought it was a great lecture,” Niño said. “I thought everything she said here was true, about the forests, everything. We as humans are polluting our natural world and I find that very sad and soon our natural resources here will probably be gone in the next decades or so.”

Fuller is known worldwide for her leadership at the World Wildlife Fund in creating innovative conservation programs, such as debt-for-nature swaps, conservation trusts, and eco-regionally scaled conservation projects, as well as grass-roots projects that empowers women, according to information provided by UTB/TSC. She is the recipient of the United Nations Environment Programme’s Global 500 award.



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- ✓ Former Human Resources Director at UTB/TSC

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Are you concerned about the recent violence in Mexico?

"Yes, I am concerned, being that the campus is near the border; people come here weekly. And, so it does concern me being that we have to keep more of a lockdown. I do agree with the [border] fence, it helps out a lot and, well, the Border Patrol is helping to keep [Brownsville] safe."

Joel Castillo
Freshman architecture major



"Yes, it's very concerning because I have family over there and it's sad that I can't go see them anymore for fear that something will happen to me or them, and it's just really sad to see that what was once a place to go anytime is just out of bounds now."

Liliana Garcia
Freshman education major

"I am very concerned with the recent violence in Mexico, because I have a family that travel to and from [Mexico]. Actually, a really close friend of mine went, and was almost kidnapped. He was walking back toward the bridge and a vehicle approached him and they opened the doors and they ran to get him and [my friend] took off running, and through the grace of God he was able to escape and he got to the bridge."

Nathaniel Escobedo
Sophomore music major



"Yes, I am, because so many innocent people are being hurt, and you see a little boy on the street and you see a man with the gun, and so you're obviously concerned for that child and not just them but old people, mothers, sons, everybody; it's kind of crazy back there."

Marilee Ortiz
Sophomore psychology major
—Compiled by Cleiri Quezada



Letter to the editor

Change I believe in

I am pleased that I worked and voted for President Barack Obama.

I am glad that for a refreshing change we have a caring, family oriented and intelligent president of and for the people.

President Obama has been in office for little more than a year, and is constantly criticized by selfish and self-centered special interests--plus millions of impatient and uniformed citizens--for not curing the ills of the past

70 years, almost all of my life.

President Obama has gotten more done for the American people in his first year than George W. Bush did in eight.

President Obama, when joined by non-obstructionist members of Congress (and there are not enough), has made progress in creating new jobs, providing for a start of economic recovery, tackling healthcare reform, investing in clean energy, promoting education, lifting the ban on stem-cell research,

restoring international family planning money, initiating banking reform and opening peace talks in several regions, as well as advocating nuclear-weapon reduction. This list could go on.

This is a wonderfully diverse and exciting country, comprised of all colors and creeds. Let us return to real values: voting, community, volunteerism.

President Obama needs and wants our support. Congress--both parties--needs to do the job

for which members were elected, and that does not include the petty bickering and partisan and babyish behavior at the behest of large corporations and the super rich who pay a ridiculously low share of taxes.

How much is enough, Americans? Aren't you as sick and tired of a complaining, mindless and racist minority as I am?

Ruth E. Wagner
Brownsville

Letters to the editor policy

Letters must include the name, major, classification and phone number of the author or the letter cannot be published. Opinions expressed in *The Collegian* are those of writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of

The Collegian or UTB/TSC administrators. The editor reserves the right to edit the letters. Letters for *The Collegian* can be sent to collegian@utb.edu.

Don't know what's happening on campus?

Watch "The Collegian's Weekly 5" with Cleiri Quezada each week at www.utbcollegian.com.



Attention, Readers:

The Collegian will not be published on March 29, so that staff may attend the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Convention in Kerrville. The newspaper will resume publication on April 5.

Advertising contracts and story requests for the April 5 issue must be submitted by 5 p.m. Monday, March 29.

For more information, call 882-5143 or send an e-mail to collegian@utb.edu.

Luau's safety message draws hundreds

By Cynthia Hernandez
Staff Writer

Some students played tug-of-war, root beer pong and climbed a rock wall while others enjoyed delicious fajita and pork tacos under a tree while wearing colorful leis at the fifth annual Safe Spring Break Luau.

About 700 students attended the March 10 event on Ringgold Road between the Student Union and Cavalry Hall.

More than 100 pounds of fajitas were served with sides of rice, beans and fruit.

For sophomore nursing major Salvador Guevara, the fajita tacos were the biggest hit of the event, while senior biology major Priscilla Rocha admired the purpose of the event.

"I think anything that provides students [with] information before a critical moment like Spring Break is, obviously, going to help out in some way," Rocha said.

This was Rocha's fourth Safe Spring Break Luau and agreed that this year's was the best, so far.

"They usually have pretty good ones, but this one's a lot bigger than it was before and

there [are] a lot more people, I've noticed," she said.

The last four luaus had a turnout of about 300 students each.

"I think students look forward to it every year because it's becoming a traditional event here at UTB/TSC," said Doug Stoves, director of Residential Life and Student Union.

Student Health Services, Friendship of Women Inc., among many other organizations, handed out pamphlets with information warning against having sex under the influence and drinking and driving. Residential Life and Housing handed out beach safes, plus plastic cups containing a pamphlet, shampoo, sunscreen, toothpaste and a whistle/flashlight keychain.

Sigma Psi Delta set up a table on which the sorority displayed graphic photos of incidents that have occurred due to texting while driving.

"We're bringing awareness to students to not text while driving," Sigma Psi Delta member Elisa Niño said. "There [have] been

a lot of accidents and Oprah [Winfrey] had started this nationwide pledge project and we're just emphasizing that."

They had students pledge to not text while driving by having them trace out their hand on butcher paper with their name or a comment inside it.

"Some of them say 'texting kills,' or 'don't text, drive safely,'" Niño said. "They're pledging to not use their hands to text."

Campus Police set up cones along Ringgold Road and had students drive around them wearing "drunk" goggles. The goggles simulate for the driver what their vision is like under the influence. A majority of the students who participated had a difficult time avoiding the cones and at times were unable to stay on the street.

Campus Police Officer Pedro Vasquez said about 100 students participated in the golf cart activity.

A Battle of the Bands hosted by the Campus Activities Board and Student Life became part of the event in which 14 local bands participated.

Stoves said both events were planned to take place at the same time, so they decided to create a partnership to attract more students.

The winners of the Battle of the Bands were Saving Athena, first place; *Panteón*, second place; and Immortal Garden, third.

The event was sponsored by the university's risk management group, which consists of Student Life, the Student Government Association, Student Health Services, Campus Police, Dean of Students, Environmental Health and Safety and the Division of Student Affairs.

"It's just a group of people that gets together and talks about areas [in which] students could be at risk, such as Spring Break," Stoves said.

The group wants students on Spring Break to "think smart, think safe"--whether it's wearing sunscreen, making sure they have a designated driver, going out in groups and staying together, and making smart choices when it comes to alcohol use, he said.

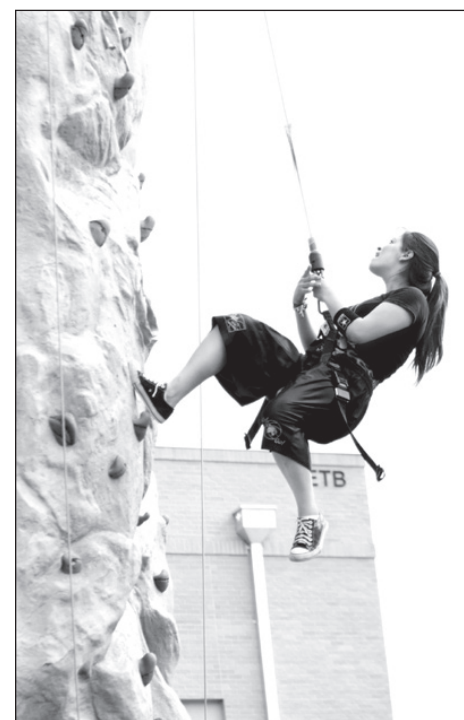


ELIZABETH A. PEREZ/COLLEGIAN PHOTOS

Junior communication major Stephanie Lucas receives leis from Student Housing Coordinator Debbie Perez (not shown) during the Safe Spring Break Luau.



A student maneuvers around safety cones while wearing "drunk" goggles. The activity simulated the effects of driving under the influence.



Freshman criminal justice major Brenda Peña climbs the rock wall set up by the U.S. Army.



Freshman pre-med major Brittney Moreno signs her name pledging not to text while driving.



Junior kinesiology major Jeff Allen participates in root beer pong.

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If Students, Staff & Faculty, as well as Local Residents, want to VOTE, you must be Registered with the Cameron County Voter Registration Office.

*The Voter Registration Office is located near UTB-TSC at:
954 East Harrison Street.
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Voter Registration Applications can be found at the Voter Registration Office or online at: <https://webservices.sos.state.tx.us/vrapp/index.asp>.

**REGISTER TO VOTE NOW! LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!
ON ELECTION DAY, VOTE RENE CORONADO!**

*Paid Pol. Adv. By Rene Coronado For TSC Board of Trustees;
Raul Coronado Jr. Treasurer; E-mail: Rene.Coronado15@utb.edu*

THE COLLEGIAN

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The University of Texas at
Brownsville and
Texas Southmost College

Important information on SAP

By Virginia Ramos
Academic Adviser

The most common questions students ask the academic advisers at the Academic Advising Center concern Satisfactory Academic Progress, or SAP.

Many students visit the Academic Advising Center because they want to drop a class but do not know what effect it will have on them. It is important that students are always aware of their academic standing and that they are informed at all times of how certain actions can have an effect on their grade-point average or the completion rate. UTB/TSC monitors the student's academic standing using a process known as Satisfactory Academic Progress. Academic standing is monitored at the end of each long semester, May and December. This process has two components and every student needs to meet the two components in order to be in good academic standing. The first component is a minimum GPA of 2.0 and the second component is a completion rate of 70 percent or higher for the courses taken that semester. Academic Probation happens when a student fails to meet one or both of these components. A student on academic probation will be monitored for academic progress using the two components each semester. After that, when the student does not meet one or both of the same components for a semester, he/she will be placed on Academic Suspension. Academic suspension requires that the student stay out of school for one long semester.

At the beginning of every fall and spring semester there is a grace period of 12 days when students can drop a class without it affecting their record. On the 12th day, known as the Official Record Date (ORD), students are officially in their registered classes. If a student decides to drop a class at any time after the ORD, it is considered a withdrawal and will appear on the student's record as a "W," which will affect their

academic standing.

Here are some things all students should know about grades:

- Any letter grade of an 'I' (Incomplete) affects your completion rate. The course is not completed until a final grade is posted.

- A repeated course denoted by an 'R' is included in the attempted hours, and will affect completion rate.

- Every "W" affects the completion rate. It does not affect GPA.

- Letter grades, such as 'D's,' do not help the GPA and "F's" will definitely affect the GPA and completion rate.

Important information regarding the six course withdrawal limit:

- Beginning with the Fall 2007 semester, a new policy on dropping courses went into effect. This policy establishes a six 'W' grades limit for all undergraduate incoming freshmen students.

- The six 'W' grades may be used at any time during a student's undergraduate career at UTB/TSC. Students can withdraw from one course or do a complete withdrawal of all courses at any time before the deadline. This deadline falls about four weeks before the last class day of the fall and spring semesters.

- The 'W' may be granted upon the student's request by the deadline, regardless of whether or not the student is passing the course. Once the six 'W's have been used, however, the student must complete all courses he or she is enrolled in regardless of academic performance.

Stay informed! Utilize the resources available to you. There is more information on SAP on our Web page, <http://www.utb.edu/vpaa/sap/Pages/Home.aspx>. You can also visit an academic adviser located at the Camille Lightner Center or at various locations throughout campus. Plan ahead! Successfully complete every credit hour for which you register per semester.

On a related note, March 31 is the last day to withdraw from a course.

Music lesson



ELIZABETH A. PEREZ/COLLEGIAN

Baritone Michael Callas guides music major Victoria Rodriguez on her musical performance during a master class. Callas, a Brownsville native who has performed with the Boston Lyric Opera, Opera Theatre of St. Louis and the Opera Company of Brooklyn, gave the class March 11 in the Arts Center Performance Hall.

Briefs

Get Moving

David Wittenburg, an associate professor in the Health and Human Performance Department, will present a lecture titled "Exercise Smarter, Not Harder" from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Tuesday in room 1.518 of the Recreation, Education and Kinesiology Center. The lecture is part of the Get Moving Seminar Series. For more information, visit www.utb.edu/getmoving.

Teacher Job Fair

UTB/TSC's Career Services Department will host the Teacher Job Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday in the Jacob Brown Auditorium. For more information, call 882-5627.

Guitar Festival

The Brownsville Guitar Ensemble Festival and Competition takes place Thursday through Saturday on the UTB/TSC campus. Scheduled performances in the Arts Center include: the UTB/TSC Guitar Orchestra at 8 p.m. Thursday (tickets, \$10); the

Tantulus Guitar Quartet, at 8 p.m. Friday (tickets, \$15); and Duo Melis at 8 p.m. Saturday (tickets are \$15, \$20 and \$25). Tickets may be purchased at the registration desk in the Student Union or at the door before the concerts. Save 10 percent with the Festival Pass, which includes all three concert nights for \$35. Doors open at 7 p.m. For more information, call Michael Quantz at 882-7525.

Research Symposium

Luis Martinez, a senior scientist for the Scripps Research Institute-Florida, will be the keynote speaker for the 12th annual UTB/TSC Research Symposium, which is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday in the Education and Business Complex's Salon Cassia. Martinez is scheduled to speak from 12:40 to 1:40 p.m. The awards ceremony will follow. For more information, call 882-5940.

Monday Night Physics

Birjoo Vaishnav, a research

assistant professor in the Physics and Astronomy Department, will present a lecture titled "Uncommon Sense and the Quantum: A Tale of Teleportation, Cats and Quantum Computing" at 7 p.m. March 29 in the third-floor conference room of the Science, Engineering and Technology Building. The lecture is part of the Monday Night Physics series. For more information, call Martha Casquette at 882-6765

Free tax return assistance

The 2010 Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program will offer free income tax return preparation to people who cannot afford a paid professional to do their return. The assistance will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in room F9 of the International Technology, Education and Commerce Center, located at 300 Mexico Blvd. For more information, call 882-4153.

Financial aid workshop

The United Way of Southern Cameron County Beehive Self-Prep Tax Assistance Tool will help

UTB/TSC students and their parents to file the 2009 Income Tax Return Form Electronically during the Financial Aid Workshops scheduled from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and March 31 in Tandy Hall 213. During the workshops, the Financial Assistance Office will assist students in filling out the 2010-2011 Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, and will answer general questions. For more information, call the Financial Assistance Office at 882-8277.

World Youth Day 2011

Catholic Campus Ministry at UTB/TSC will go to Spain for World Youth Day 2011 from Aug. 15 to 21, 2011. Students interested in the trip may call the ministry at 541-9697.

--Compiled by Cleiri Quezada

If you would like your organization or department news published in The Collegian's Briefs section, call Cleiri Quezada at 882-5782 or send her an e-mail at collegian@utb.edu.

Police Reports

Following are among the incidents reported by Campus Police between Feb. 22 and 26.

At 4:34 p.m. Feb. 22, a staff member reported as missing the inner lock cylinder of a study room door on the second floor of the New Library. She said the theft had happened twice before. A Campus Police officer did not detect any pry marks on the lock. The loss was estimated at \$100.

At 8:19 p.m. the same day, a student reported that someone scratched all four of her Jeep Liberty's doors in a circular pattern after having an incident with a woman regarding a parking space in Lot AB. The damage was estimated at \$300.

At 9 a.m. Feb.23, a man tripped over a loose brick and fell near the Life and Health Sciences Building. He suffered a nose bleed, one abrasion under and two over his left eye.

At 5:30 p.m. the same day, a student's Ford Explorer was burglarized at her residence in Matamoros, Tamps. She said her UTB/TSC parking permit was one of the items stolen.

At 12:13 p.m. Feb. 24, a student reported that the front rim of his bicycle was damaged by several students. The damage was estimated at \$40.

At 2:15 p.m. the same day, a staff member reported selling his Chevrolet Astro van and accidentally

leaving his UTB/TSC parking permit in the vehicle.

At 12:21 a.m. Feb. 25, an Aztec employee heard a loud noise from the break room in Gorgas Hall. The sound was caused by a clock that fell from a wall.

At 9:20 a.m. the same day, a student reported leaving his UTB/TSC parking permit inside a vehicle he sold.

At 4:29 p.m. the same day, a Physical Plant employee reported a toolbox was stolen from a Physical Plant vehicle that was parked behind the Barnes & Noble Bookstore. The loss was estimated at \$269.

At 11:05 a.m. Feb. 26, a student's UTB/TSC parking permit flew out of her vehicle's window as she was

driving. The student said she had glued only half of the permit on her windshield.

At 12:40 p.m. the same day, a student sold her vehicle and forgot to remove her UTB/TSC parking permit.

At 2:05 p.m. the same day, a Mitsubishi Galant and a Chevrolet Malibu collided in Lot A. The damage to both vehicles was estimated at \$600. No injuries were reported.

At 4:38 p.m. the same day, a marijuana bong was found during a room inspection at The Village at Fort Brown.

--Compiled by Cynthia Hernandez

Looking through the lens of an artist

By **Jacqueline Vasquez**
Staff Writer

In a photograph, a girl looks straight at the camera through a strip of black lace over her eyes, her lips and hair aflame in bright red as she holds her face with white-laced-gloved hands. The background is in different hues of turquoise.

In another image, wisps of black hair are blowing in the wind as the young woman holds an opened black birdcage releasing a fluttering white bird. Her eyelids are covered with green, blue, yellow and purple velvety shades. The background resembles the colors in a nebula.

These are two examples of what sophomore nursing major Denise Lecusay has created with her photography. She likes to push the limits on what she does with her art and will sometimes place something beautiful with something beastly.

Lecusay said she likes the settings for her photography to be at random and abandoned places in order to have that contrast of beauty and the not so beautiful.

“We’ll go to junkyards or abandoned places, houses,” she said. “Anything that’s grungy and like it’s falling apart.”

Lecusay drives around looking for locations or people suggest places to her. On occasion, she has been caught trespassing.

“On some of them you don’t need to ask permission [to be there, but] yeah, I’ve gotten into trouble sometimes,” she said with a laugh. “So I just kind of, like, flutter away or talk my way out of it or



ELIZABETH A. PEREZ/COLLEGIAN
Photographer Denise Lecusay was featured in the Garden Art Show presented by Amigos Artistas.

something.”

Lecusay’s models are usually friends of hers who work together with her on deciding on a subject. Even though it is her project, she does not like ordering the people that work with her around.

“It’s more like a creative collaboration of different ideas,” Lecusay said. “So I take ideas, I give ideas.”

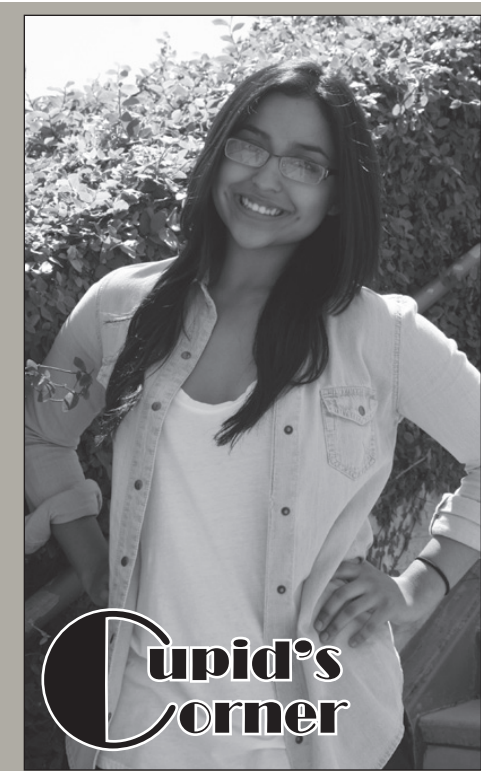
The graceful features of the female form are one of the things that inspire her.

“It’s like a mixture of the delicacy of feminine beauty and then to put them somewhere where it’s completely like dilapidated and torn, so it’s kind of like a contrast,” she said.

• See ‘Photographer,’ Page 8



Courtesy Photo



Cupid's
Corner

CLEIRI QUEZADA/COLLEGIAN

Name: Ileana Anzures
Age: 19
Classification: Freshman

Major: Nursing
Zodiac Sign: Sagittarius
What’s your nickname? “I don’t have a nickname.”

What would you say to your worst enemy? “If I had one I would say, ‘Stop hating.’”

What do you like to do on the weekends? “Photography, painting, music.”

Do you prefer comfort or fashion? “Comfort.”

What is your favorite quote? “Enjoy the ride while you’re on it.”

What movie do you watch over and over? “‘The Dark Knight’ and ‘10

Things I Hate About You.’”
Do you believe in yourself? “Yes.”

Best place to go on a date? “I hate dates.”

I would never date a guy who ... “smokes.”

What do you look for in the opposite sex? “I’m attracted to their style.”

Free Association Quiz:
Turn-offs: “Someone that chews with their mouth open.”

Dream: “Unicorns and dinosaurs.”

Boys: “Cheats and liars.”
--Compiled by Cleiri Quezada

If you would like to be featured in Cupid’s Corner, call Cleiri Quezada at 882-5782 or send her an e-mail at collegian@utb.edu.

'Scopes

By **Francisco Garza**
Webcast Editor

Aries (March 21-April 19): This week look for those old toys you used to play with when you were a kid. They will help you remember simpler times, like a month ago when you did not have to worry about midterms.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): So, how was your Spring Break? Did you go to the beach? Did you get a tan? Did you wrestle any alligators?

Gemini (May 21- June 21): Life is like a commercial jingle. You are not too sure what it is about, but it is catchy.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): I hope you spent some time this Spring Break fixing your house, because the words “death trap” should be reserved only for actual death traps.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 23): Shadow boxing and shadow tennis are popular variations of sports. But if you play shadow chess, be prepared for a stalemate.

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 22): This week you should take a walk. It helps you clear your mind, relax and lose those extra pounds you gained from all that junk food you’ve been eating.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): You should change your voicemail message from your nickname to your real name. I mean, not a lot of people know who “Captain Fluffypillows” is anyway.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): No matter what the popular belief is, if the roof is on fire, you should call the fire department.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): This week will present many obstacles to you. Remember to jump high.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Reading is an essential part of the life of a college student. It hlp u wit ur speling.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): If you feel gray this week, then just buy a box of crayons.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20): If this week you feel that everyone is against you, remember the old saying: If you can’t beat them, join them!

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Volunteering their way overseas

By Cleiri Quezada
Staff Writer

A student organization at UTB/TSC is keeping our beaches clean and helping families build homes, in the hope of getting sponsored to travel with the Study Abroad program to Spain this summer.

John Barajas, senior president of the Interarchitex Design Club, visited the Texas Land Office Adopt-a-Beach Web site and adopted a mile of a beach on South Padre Island.

“We just adopted a piece of the beach, it’s about a mile [between] where Schlitterbahn starts to about where the Sheraton [hotel] ends,” Barajas said.

The club’s main goal is to donate as much time to volunteer work.

“Our main goal is to promote our architectural school,” Barajas said. “Some of [the volunteer programs] are mandatory... which is why we’re going to be doing a lot of the community service. The sponsors are not only going to just give us the money; they’re going to want see what we’re doing.”

Each student needs to raise \$4,000 for the trip to Spain.

Cleaning a beach was only a spur-of-the-moment idea, so only seven architectural majors volunteered.

“We just said let’s do it, since we already got our land; let’s start getting involved; let’s make it happen, so we got seven students,” Barajas said.

The Texas Land Office Adopt-a-Beach program provided the Interarchitex Design club with the tools needed for the beach cleanup.

“The Texas Adopt-a-Beach gave us the tools, [like] the gloves, bags, [and] they



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Interarchitex Design Club pick up litter Feb. 27 on the portion of the beach on South Padre Island they adopted under the Texas Adopt-a-Beach program. They are (from left) architecture majors Justen Beanet, Javier Reyna, Benjamin Borrajo and John Barajas.

also gave us patches,” he said. “They prepared us; they gave us all the materials that we were going to need to get the job done.”

Barajas is proud that his club is getting involved with the community, not only in Brownsville, but also in other areas of the Rio Grande Valley.

“The people ... are going to see that we are getting involved in their communities, let alone our own, so it’s just overwhelming for me; knowing that we’re making a difference, not only for ourselves but for others,” he said.

The club members are also volunteers

for *Proyecto Azteca*, an organization that facilitates construction for low-income families that live in rural Hidalgo County.

“It’s basically an organization that gives away houses,” senior architecture major Leonel Ramirez explained to *The Collegian*. “What we’re trying to do is get the whole club to go out there on Saturdays and go and work at the projects--eight hours, more or less. It’s a nice organization that helps out the community.”

Proyecto Azteca is a self-help program in which families who qualify for these homes have to put in 500 to 600 equity hours toward their home. However, some

of these families have disabilities or are elders who cannot put in the time, so they seek for the public or their community to donate their time toward their equity hours, said Erick Diaz, an assistant master technical instructor in the Fine Arts Department and adviser for the club.

“They as a group decided that they were going to do community service projects, and in turn, hopefully, they’ll get the attention of private entities out there that would help them go to Spain,” Diaz told *The Collegian* via telephone.

On March 6, the club worked on the homes of families at the corner of Cesar Chavez Road and Business Highway 83 in San Juan.

Barajas and his club interacted with the families who will be receiving the homes.

“There was [a family] in particular that we went to; we were helping them with the gardening, helping them clean up ... picking up the wood, it went really good,” Barajas said.

Ramirez hopes that his club’s efforts to raise money and that their volunteer work motivates others to do the same.

“I think this would motivate a lot of people, because of the fact that you’re helping out low-income housing just for the fact that you see someone with a smile at the time that you hand them the house; that should motivate a lot of people to help out in the community,” he said.

Sophomore architecture major Javier Reyna agreed with Ramirez.

“It’s a good experience to go and do something other than for ourselves,” Reyna said.

Barajas hopes that students of all majors get involved in future volunteer work.

Photographer

Continued from Page 7

Lecusay started with photography four years ago, but has never taken any art or photography classes. She is self-taught by viewing tutorials online. She said photography is a form of expression and a passion for her.

This year she became involved with Amigos Artistas, a nonprofit organization that promotes the arts. It was founded by Dr. Romeo F. Montalvo Jr. in 2001.

“I decided to start Amigos Artistas to influence persons that are interested plus, you know, looking at art in a different way, both for its beauty and then, of course, decorative purposes and ... for investment,” Montalvo said.

Amigos Artistas had an event on Saturday where only certain artists were selected to display their artwork.

Those included were local artists such as Lecusay and Brad Doherty and artists from Chicago, Baja California and Oaxaca. Different artwork from ceramics to photography was exhibited.

“Next year we’re planning [to have] a neon artist,” Montalvo said. “He does neon as an art media.”

Lecusay said it was an opportunity not only to display her work, but to meet other artists as well.

Montalvo said he enjoys Lecusay’s artwork.

“I think her work is very interesting,” he said. “A lot of people would say, ‘Wow that’s a little out of the ordinary,’ but I

like it. We have some of her work in our collection.”

Amigos Artistas will sponsor an annual event called “Art in the Park” at the Dean Porter Park Indoor Civic Pavilion in September.

“Everybody’s invited,” Montalvo said. “We don’t charge, it’s free to the public.”

Twenty percent of what the artists sell go to Amigos Artistas, to continue funding the promotion of the arts, and the rest goes to the artist. He said any artist wishing to be a part of “Art in the Park” can be, but their work has to be evaluated by the committee first.

“In general, most people that apply are pretty good artists, so as far as I can remember we haven’t rejected anybody,” Montalvo said.

Lecusay has also exhibited her work at places such as the Galeria 409. Her artwork has been published in the magazine *phem*. org and in the book “Gothic Society” by Max Lopez.

She has no particular plans for her photography and mostly does it for fun, but would like to someday have a studio to give upcoming artists a chance to display their work.

“You know, everybody has their way of expression, whether it’s writing or taking pictures or whatever,” Lecusay said. “It’s like a method of release and self-expression. You know, when you feel pent up or you have a little free time, you just go and do something fun. It just turned out that other people kind of dug it, so I just went along with it.”

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LULAC president: Put minorities in the history books

By Jacqueline Vasquez
Staff Writer

Most people would agree that Texas has a rich history. It is just too bad Latinos are being left out of it. It is too bad most minorities, especially minority women, are being left out of it.

This was one of the topics presented at the Professional Women Speak 2010 Spring Conference that took place on March 6 in the Education and Business Complex’s Salón Cassia.

Rosa Rosales, the national president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, or LULAC, was the keynote speaker.

Every 10 years, the information that goes into history textbooks is decided by the 15 elected commissioners of the Texas State Board of Education. Rosales said the history of minorities is being left out and some members of the board do not want to include such people as Henry Cisneros, who served as mayor of San Antonio and secretary of U.S. Housing and Urban Development, and organizations such as La Raza Unida Party.

She said it is a wake-up call and although change will be difficult, people need to get involved when the board elections come up.

“We must make sure that they understand that the history of Latinos, that the history of minorities in Texas is what made Texas so great,” Rosales said. “We cannot live without having our history being represented.”

She said that by not being included in our history books, it is like a tree without roots. Eventually, it will die. In high school she learned that Jane Long became known as the “Mother of Texas” because it is claimed that she was the first woman to have a child in the state.

“They did away with all Latinos, all *Mexicanos*, all Native Americans that had babies, but she was the ‘Mother of Texas’ and with all due respect, that’s what we’re talking about when you leave the history of Latinos and minorities out,” Rosales said.

It is important to have Latino



LUCIANA MORALES/COLLEGIAN

UTB/TSC President Juliet V. García (right) welcomes keynote speaker Rosa Rosales, president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, to the Professional Women Speak 2010 Spring Conference on March 6 in the Education and Business Complex’s Salón Cassia. Also shown is Juanita Urbano (left), an administrative assistant in the office of Marketing and Communication and co-chair of Professional Women Speak.

children be proud of their history and culture, she said, but they will not even know it unless it is taught.

Of the 15 State Board of Education commissioners, five agree to have the history of minorities included she said. Although outvoted, LULAC and other organizations will continue to fight for it.

“We will be out there, whether they listen to us or not, and we will say that we want the history of Latinos and minorities to be included in our history books,” Rosales said.

Another issue she spoke about was discrimination in the workforce due to such reasons as age, gender and race.

“I pride myself that they always say, ‘Rosa is always crying discrimination,’” she said. “It’s not that I cry discrimination. It’s that it’s there. We cannot close our eyes, we have a long ways, but we have to go a long ways longer to ensure that all, that as Latinos and minorities and as women—what do we ask for? Never do we ask for special favors. Never do we ask for exceptions, just that we are treated with respect and dignity in a fair and just manner.”

LULAC, along with other organizations, is also trying to help with how unjustly some illegal immigrants are being treated. Because they did not have permission to be in the United States, she said

that recently at a detention center, men and women were gathered and shackled together so abruptly, some of them were only wearing underwear and were shoeless.

Rosales said that many assert that illegal immigrants should just get their papers in order, but it is easier said than done.

“When you have to wait 18 years to become a citizen, the process is broken and so that is why we need to have comprehensive immigration reform now,” she said.

There are also young children who are brought into the U.S. by their parents and although they have never known any other life, they are forced back to their country after Immigration and Customs Enforcement learns they do not have the proper papers to reside in the U.S. She encouraged her audience to support and hold rallies against such practices.

LULAC has 57 learning centers that mentor and counsel young people. A new program called *Entre Comadres* encourages women, usually in washaterias, to go to LULAC centers to be taught English, computer usage and other skills. The organization also offers scholarships and gives charitable donations to many in need.

Rosales has been involved in LULAC for more than 30 years and

said she has had a great time.

“I could never have gotten to be national president if I hadn’t gotten the support of men and women of LULAC who believed in me,” she said.

LULAC welcomes anyone who wants to make a difference in his or her community. Councils are not only nationwide, but international as well, including India, Africa and Mexico.

“Our arms are open to each and every one of you because, believe me, it is not one person, it is all of us working together to make a difference,” she said.

At the end of her speech, Rosales received a standing ovation.

“Well, if you weren’t fired up before you got here, you’d certainly have to be now,” UTB/TSC President Juliet V. García said after Rosales’ speech.

García thanked Rosales and told her it was an honor to have her come speak at UTB/TSC.

In an interview with *The Collegian*, García said it was important to have someone like Rosales speak at the university because she “represents a group that is historical in its origins” and because LULAC is an advocacy group.

“It’s very important for our

• See ‘LULAC,’ Page 12

Humble beginning for LULAC president

Rosa Rosales grew up poor in the *barrios* of San Antonio, but said she never realized it because her family would share what they had, like giving fruit to others in the neighborhood who had nothing to eat. It was not until she saw her father’s check stub when she was 18 years old that she understood just how poor her family really was.

She said her father had been a laborer his whole life, but managed to do a wonderful job raising six daughters. What was mainly expected then was to get a high school education and go out and help the family.

Although Rosales graduated from high school with an A average, no one encouraged her to seek a higher education.

“That’s why it’s so important, the role that many of you play here in this university, to mentor and counsel to our young women and to all students,” she said.

Rosales married and had children and moved to Michigan because her husband was hired for a job. She said she was reluctant to leave, but it proved to be a “beautiful experience.”

Rosales said she was timid and shy when she first arrived in Michigan, but made herself speak up. With her husband’s encouragement, she enrolled in the University of Michigan. Although she went in with fears and great trepidation, getting an education made a huge difference in her life.

“Education is a liberating force,” she said.

While in school, a professor gave her and other students inside information that greatly affected minority women.

“The University of Michigan, they had a lot of money in the women’s department, but not a single penny was going to minority women,” Rosales said.

She and other students did not want to speak to the president of the university without getting organized first because they knew their talk would not be effective otherwise. She said retaliation and getting labeled as a troublemaker sometimes ensues without getting united, getting organized and having facts to present.

After their victory, Rosales began advocating for other issues, which later led her to the League of United Latin American Citizens, or LULAC.

A woman had never been elected as district director for LULAC’s District 15 in San Antonio. She ran, even though many of the men called her a “loose cannon,” and won the election.

Later, when she ran for national president, she remained positive in the face of adversity. She lost the first two times and won the third and fourth elections.

“Starting from a humble beginning I never thought I could

• See ‘Humble,’ Page 12

Students to work the catwalk

By Julianna Sosa
Collegian Editor

Students, women and men will strut their stuff on the runway Wednesday.

“Professional Development Week” will kick off with the Student Professionalism Event, which is scheduled to take place from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the SET-B courtyard.

Students will face off in a fashion show, where the best-dressed man and woman will each receive a \$100 gift card from H-E-B Food Stores. The contest will be judged by a panel of faculty.

In addition to the show, there will be informational and student organization booths set up around the SET-B courtyard and inside the SET-B Lecture Hall reception area.

Students can participate in mock interviews, where they will learn the “do’s and don’ts” of the process, and representatives from Mary Kay Inc. will give free facials, makeovers and makeup tips.

Sergio Martinez, director of Student Life, will host a booth where male students can learn how to tie a tie.

One of the main activities of the fair is the professional clothing exchange, where students will be able to trade non-perishable food items for professional clothing that has been donated by faculty. The event is being coordinated by Elizabeth Sierra-Zarella, the Title V Student Support Service coordinator, in conjunction with the Career Services Department, STEM

Peer Mentor Club, Mexican American Engineering Society, Society for Hispanic Engineering Professionals and the Medical Academic Coalition.

For more information, contact Sierra-Zarella at 882-5794. If you would like to donate clothes, contact Monica Ramos at 882-7004.

Student Life will host the first “Women’s Leadership Conference,” where speakers will share their professional experiences.

The conference will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday in the Educational and Business Complex courtyard. From there, students will enjoy a free dinner while Selma Yznaga, an associate professor in

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C.A.M.P. to honor Chavez

By Christine Cavazos
Staff Writer

As the daughter of migrant farmworker parents, Claudia Cisneros, used to work in the potato and beet fields in California and Idaho. “I used to go with my parents every year but now I stay here. C.A.M.P. helps me concentrate [on school],” said Cisneros, now a freshman nursing major at UTB/TSC.

Cisneros is a participant in the College Assistance Migrant Program. This academic year, the program enrolled 50 students.

The department will commemorate the 43rd anniversary of Cesar Chavez’s 300-mile pilgrimage from Delano to Sacramento, Calif., as part of UTB/TSC’s observance of National Farmworkers Awareness Week.

The events kick off this Friday with a National Cesar Chavez Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Cardenas Hall South 101. The rest of the activities will start next week.

--March 29: from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., C.A.M.P. will host an open house and breakfast in Cardenas Hall North 104.

--March 30: at 9 a.m., C.A.M.P. students will visit migrant students at Palm Grove Elementary School in Brownsville to share their

stories and read from books about migrants. --March 31: at 11 a.m., students and faculty will meet in front of the Student Union to take part in the Cesar Chavez Memorial March to Brownsville’s City Hall, located at 1001 E. Elizabeth St.

--April 1: at 6 p.m., a migrant student forum titled “Lo que dices cuenta” will take place in the SET-B third-floor conference room.

--April 2: at 6 p.m., C.A.M.P. students and family will gather at Lincoln Park, located on University Boulevard, for a Fiesta de la Cosecha (Harvest Party).

Maria del Carmen Gonzalez, a learning instructional specialist for C.A.M.P., said more than 150 people participated in the events last year.

“The activities involve students, faculty and staff, so that we can remember the battle that Cesar Chavez undertook for migrants’ civil rights,” Gonzalez said.

Chavez, who died in 1993, “led the historic non-violent movement for farmworkers’ rights; he dedicated himself to a movement of poor working people that extended beyond the fields and into cities and towns across the nation,” according to the United Farm Workers’ Web site.

LULAC

Continued from Page 9

students and faculty to get involved in advocacy,” she said. “When we’re given the gift of education—communication skills—one of our responsibilities is to become an advocate for those who perhaps don’t have those skills.”

Professional Women Speak was founded in 1981 by García, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs Ethel Cantu, Professor of Modern Languages Lucy Willis and Professor of Behavioral Sciences Virginia Wood.

Before introducing Rosales, García explained that they formed the organization because it is important to give women a chance to discuss professional and personal adversity that women in this area usually face.

During a speech García gave at PanAmerican University, now the University of Texas-Pan American, about future careers for women, she was surprised by the questions she was asked afterward by the women in attendance.

“I was talking about careers and professional activities and job projections and industry clusters and the kind of question I was getting was, ‘how do you get permission to go to college?’” she said. “And I realized I had completely missed my audience.”

After discussing her experience with Cantu, they enlisted Wood and Willis and set up Professional Women Speak, an organization where women, mostly from non-traditional careers, can talk to faculty and students in a more intimate setting and women in the audience can ask questions afterward.

García said the organization is beneficial to students because many do not have role models they can ask these types of questions to and do not have any idea on how to go about getting a career.

“This is a wonderful conference and this is the type of conference that we need around the United States and everywhere to put up a wake-up call to all our women,” Rosales said in an interview with The Collegian.

Humble

Continued from Page 9

make it to be national president of LULAC,” Rosales said.

As national president she said she has tried to address the issues for which LULAC was founded, which is “creating a better quality of life for all Latinos and all communities.”

LULAC is one of the oldest and largest Hispanic civil rights organizations in the

United States. Rosales has won many awards, including the LULAC Woman of the Year Award, the Cesar Chavez March for Justice Award and the American GI Forum Leadership Award.

She has also been involved with other organizations such as the National Association of Government Employees and is the founder and director of the National Association of Public Employees.

--Jacqueline Vasquez

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- Splendora ISD
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- Texas City ISD
- UTP Lift Education
- UTB/TSC Graduate Office
- Uvalde ISD

Welcome to your Second Life

By Francisco Garza
Webcast Editor

Imagine watching your professor lecture in class without leaving the comfort of your home. This is now possible thanks to Second Life, a virtual world developed by Linden Labs.

In Second Life, people called “Residents” talk, play games or even work using avatars, which are a virtual representation of themselves. Recently, several learning institutions have held classes through Second Life, including UTB/TSC.

This means that now students can attend virtual campuses, giving a new angle to online classes. Mario Guerra, of the Division of Instructional Innovation and Assessment at the University of Texas at Austin, told *The Collegian* that the program started on July 1, 2009.

Audio and Video Technician Luis Machuca and Computer User Services Specialist Emmanuel Borboa, both of whom work in the Distance Education and Instructional Technologies Department, are two of the builders and developers of the virtual campus, and many of the buildings and landscape in it are their creations.

When you enter the virtual campus, the first thing you notice is a giant Scorpion painted on the floor, while around you are boards with images and helpful tips about Second Life. If you turn around, you can see a replica of the New Library, and if you choose to enter it, you will notice that the floor and ceiling tiles are the same as those in the actual building. This is because Jesus Torres, a Web designer in the same department, took photographs of the library floor and ceiling, then uploaded them to Second Life and used them as texture for the



ELIZABETH A. PEREZ/COLLEGIAN

Computer User Services Specialist Emmanuel Borboa shows the virtual campus on Second Life March 9 in the Office of Distance Education. Also shown is Audio and Video Technician Luis Machuca.

building.

Other things included in the campus are a lake in the form of a scorpion, a planetarium, an auditorium area, classrooms, a lecture hall and a sandbox. A sandbox is a place where anyone can build objects, clothes and other things.

Asked how much the program cost, Guerra replied via e-mail, “Each island has an initial cost of \$700 and a monthly maintenance fee of \$147.50.”

An island on Second Life is a piece of rented property.

“The UT System purchased 49 of these islands for \$122,500 for the year,” Guerra said, adding that after this year, it will be the individual school’s responsibility to pay for the maintenance fee.

UTB/TSC owns three islands—UTB I, UTB

II and UTB III—that make up its virtual campus. This semester, the university started offering classes on Second Life, including Conservation of Natural Resources taught by Jeff Wilson, an assistant professor in the Chemistry and Environmental Sciences Department.

“I’m teaching it between Second Life and the actual classroom,” Wilson told *The Collegian*. “I polled a class last semester and asked who would be at least open to the idea, and in a class of 40, 38 raised their hands.”

The upper-level environmental science class has about 12 students; he said that through Second Life, the students can get a more interactive experience.

“I was giving a lecture in climate change and I had them go over and explore over one of [the National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration’s] islands,” Wilson said. “At NOAA, I had them go to the glacier and go through a climate change scenario.”

He said Second Life also offers a more personal touch in online classes.

“You can stay in your pajamas in Harlingen, rather than have to come to campus, and it’s almost the same experience,” he said, adding that he hopes to teach a larger class next fall.

Eva Lizette Garcia, a junior environmental science major who is enrolled in Wilson’s environmental science class, said she likes the class because the topics are relevant to what’s going on around the world and that Wilson helps keep the class interesting and is really helpful.

Betsy Price, director of UTB/TSC’s Center for Teaching and Learning, said “[Second Life] could be just [as big] or bigger than the Internet, but in a 3-D world.”

“We are doing a lot of testing, [to find out] what do we have to do, what kind of computer power, what kind of training do we have to give the students and how do we have to support faculty,” Price said.

Currently, there are only two computer labs with access to Second Life. They are located in the Education and Business Complex and in the Center for Teaching and Learning, she said. The university is deciding how much computer access it is going to make available to students.

“Eventually, we want to help students open up [virtual] stores and provide services,” Price said.

Those familiar with the program are encouraged to contact Price at betsy.price@utb.edu in order to serve as mentors to other students.

Future plans for the online campus include music concerts, films and a music appreciation class during the summer.





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ELIZABETH A. PEREZ/COLLEGIAN

Members of the Percussion Club include (front row, from left) Mathew Lorick, Secretary David Jimenez, Vice President Magaly Romero, President Johnny Cortez, Treasurer Nicolas Hurtado, Jonathan Garza, Raul Garza and Jacob Castaneda. Second row: Vicente Fernandez, O.J. Reyes, Tom Raines, Alfonso De Los Santos, Michael Segura, Zeke Gonzalez, Andrew Handy, Michael Salinas and Omar Perez.

Name: Percussion Club
Purpose: To promote school spirit throughout UTB/TSC.
Established: Fall 2009
President: Johnny Cortez
Vice President: Magaly Romero
Secretary: David Jimenez
Treasurer: Nicolas Hurtado
Adviser: Tom Nevill
Events: Parades and sporting events.
Meetings: An official meeting is held from 4 to 6 p.m. on the first Monday or Wednesday

of the semester in the Music Building. Drum line practices are 4 to 6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays.
Requirements: Must be a UTB/TSC student.
For more information: contact Nevill at 882-8274 or send an e-mail to tom.nevill@utb.edu.

--Compiled by Elizabeth A. Perez
If you would like your student organization featured in the Club Spotlight, call Collegian reporter Elizabeth A. Perez at 882-5143 or send an e-mail to collegian@utb.edu.

Rubio

Continued from Page 1
placed on the ballot.

His first attempt, in 2006, was at first rejected by TSC District officials due to a criminal conviction of transportation of marijuana in Mexico. Citing “potential ambiguities in the interpretation of the law,” TSC later placed Rubio on the ballot while it sought an opinion from the Texas attorney general. But, Roman “Dino” Esparza defeated Rubio by a vote 4,906 to 2,519.

In an informal opinion, the Texas attorney general suggested Rubio was ineligible to hold office, according to *The Collegian* archives. He filed for candidacy again in 2008, but was declared ineligible during a special meeting of the TSC board of trustees on March 6, 2008. Rubio then sued the TSC board on March 20, 2008. During a hearing April 7, 2008, 107th District Court Judge Benjamin Euresti ruled in favor of TSC, declaring Rubio ineligible. According to *The Collegian* archives, Rubio filed an appeal against Euresti’s judicial

qualification in the 13th Court of Appeals 30 days later. The case is still pending and Rubio’s attorney, Ben Neece, contends that because the appeal is pending, the judgment is not final. “Our position is, no final judgment; the elections code is clear, he has to be put on the ballot,” Neece told *The Collegian* in a telephone interview March 11. TSC attorney Daniel Rentfro said the final judgment still stands. “[Rubio] filed an appeal, but until the appeal is resolved the trial court judgment is a valid

judgment,” Rentfro told *The Collegian* in a telephone interview March 11. Others who have filed for candidacy in the May 8 election:
Place 3 race: Dr. Robert Lozano, a neurologist, and Robert Lopez, director of administrative services for Cameron County;
Place 4 race: Trey Mendez, an attorney, and Eduardo Rodriguez, also an attorney;
Place 5 race: Rosemary Breedlove, the incumbent; Francisco G. Rendon, a construction contractor; and Army Reserve Capt. Rene Coronado.



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SET-B Lecture Hall and Courtyard

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- Mathematics Dept.
- Architecture Program
- Student Life

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Se cancelan viajes a México

Por Ana Laura Martell
Editora de Español

La agencia de asuntos consulares del Departamento de Estado de Estados Unidos se ha declarado en estado de alerta sobre el peligro que corren los ciudadanos estadounidenses que radican en México, o que planean visitar el país.

El llamamiento se publicó en la página Web de la agencia el pasado 22 de febrero, mismo que circuló como correo electrónico masivo días después entre el alumnado, profesorado y personal de UTB/TSC.

El documento previene acerca de la violenta narcoguerra entre los carteles y autoridades mexicanas a lo largo de la frontera, así como también la inseguridad y crimen organizado en el interior de la república. Éste sustituye al aviso emitido en 20 de agosto de 2009.

Desde luego, la cuestión no sólo llama la atención a ciudadanos estadounidenses. Extranjeros de diversas nacionalidades también parecen tomar el consejo del gobierno de E.E.U.U.

Dawid Wladyka y Katarzyna Sepielak, una pareja polaca, ingresaron a los Estados Unidos hace varios meses como estudiantes de intercambio en UTB/TSC.

Ilusionados e impulsados por su espíritu aventurero, Wladyka y Sepielak pronto se vieron forzados a renunciar al sueño tan

añorado de visitar el interior de la república mexicana.

Antes de partir al continente americano, en Polonia se les advirtió acerca de la inseguridad que se sufre en México y de la peligrosa proximidad de Brownsville con Matamoros. Sus planes, no obstante, seguían en pie.

No faltaba quien les aconsejara en pro o en contra de visitar las maravillas de México, que tanto ansiaban descubrir. Sin embargo, recibieron el correo masivo enviado por la universidad, un factor decisivo y determinante.

“Fue la gota que colmó el vaso”, afirmó Sepielak, 24, estudiante de posgrado de traducción, en referencia al documento de alerta.

La violencia e inseguridad, especialmente en las ciudades fronterizas, ya es noticia en Europa. Los estudiantes de intercambio han recibido correos electrónicos por parte de consternadas amistades de Barcelona, en donde la pareja tiene residencia fija. Señalan que los medios de comunicación en Polonia también han reportado al respecto.

“Lo que es curioso es el caso de Polonia cuando no se habla normalmente de México”, señaló Sepielak.

“Toda la gente nos dice que la situación empeora, que se pone más peligrosa”, apuntó Wladyka, 26, estudiante de posgrado de sociología. “[Esto] nos hace pensar que

no es la mejor idea ir y, bueno, la alerta es una consecuencia lógica de lo que pasa [en México]”.

En pocos meses Wladyka y Spielak saldrán del continente americano un tanto desilusionados por haber estado tan cerca y a la vez tan lejos del país que deseaban conocer.

“Es una pena porque es lo que planeábamos desde hace mucho tiempo”, comentó Sepielak. “Siempre [quisimos] visitar México porque es uno de los mejores países”.

“Uno de los más bonitos”, concluyó Wladyka.

La pareja polaca no es la única que ha renunciado a sus planes de visitar la república mexicana.

Arnulfo Mar, profesor de química de UTB/TSC, suele realizar dos viajes anuales a México, uno de ellos durante las vacaciones de *Spring Break*; el segundo, durante el puente de Acción de Gracias (*Thanksgiving*). Los viajes se han vuelto tradición de varios años para un grupo de profesores, alumnos y miembros de la comunidad.

Este año el químico se vio obligado a cancelar el viaje a Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, programado para la tercera semana de marzo.

Seguramente Mar no planeará el viaje anual a San Miguel de Allende—tradición de 15 años— que realiza su grupo (de cerca de 100 personas) en el mes de noviembre, a no ser que la actual situación en México mejore.

“Esperamos que las cosas se calmen un

poco,” comenta Mar. “Disfrutamos viajar [a México]... es un lugar maravilloso tan cerca de nosotros”.

En una entrevista con *El Collegian*, Mari Fuentes-Martin, decana de estudiantes de UTB/TSC, resalta la importancia de la reciente alerta del gobierno estadounidense, además de las últimas noticias que emiten los medios de comunicación.

“Yo no apruebo ningún viaje [en estas circunstancias]”, declaró Fuentes-Martin. La decana pretende darse a la tarea de advertir y disuadir a cualquier persona que contemple viajar a México.

Su consejo para el alumnado de UTB/TSC es directo, sólido y conciso: “No vayan”. Punto.

El 8 de marzo, el cónsul estadounidense en Matamoros dio aviso sobre reanudación de los horarios del consulado en Reynosa. También levantó las restricciones oficiales impuestas a los ciudadanos estadounidenses de viajar a la ciudad. Sin embargo, en caso de realizar viajes dentro del país, se les recomienda seguir de cerca la página Web de la embajada estadounidense en la capital mexicana.

Las oficinas del consulado en Matamoros seguirán operando de 8 a.m. a 5 p.m. de lunes a viernes.

Para mayores detalles, consulte: <http://travel.state.gov/>.

Aviso conmemorativo



FRANCISCO ESPINOSA/COLLEGIAN

Se reúnen estudiantes de UTB/TSC para presenciar la conmemoración (*Mobile Memorial*) del fallecimiento de la estudiante Amber Menefee a un costado del edificio SET-B el 8 de marzo. Menefee, quien asistía a Texas Tech University, falleció a la edad de 21 años en el 2006 a causa de un conductor embriagado que conducía en sentido contrario en el momento de la colisión. El departamento de la decana de estudiantes patrocinó el evento.

Estudiante de hoy



Nombre: Jorge de la Colina
Edad: 25
Ciudad natal: Ciudad de México, Méx.
Promedio: 3.16
Especialidad: Comunicación
Clasificación: Estudiante de tercer año

Fecha de graduación: Mayo 2011
Reconocimientos: Lista de la Rectora: Primavera 2009; Lista del Decano: Otoño 2009.
Pasatiempos: “Tienen que ver con el cine: ver películas, filmar mis propios proyectos. Además, me gusta la fotografía, el diseño gráfico y dibujo muy bien”.
Actividades extracurriculares: “Hace unos años me gradué en dirección de cine y cinematografía en una escuela técnica de Nueva York. Hice varios cortometrajes, ayudé en un largometraje grabado en Canadá por dos meses. Después de varias producciones filmé largometrajes de bajo presupuesto en Ciudad de México. Actualmente trabajo en una compañía publicitaria; dirijo, grabo y edito comerciales de televisión pero quiero sacar adelante varios proyectos de cine”.
¿Cuáles son tus metas? “Graduarme lo antes posible, ser director de cine y realizar largometrajes”.
¿Cómo te ves dentro de 10 años? “Espero

haber dirigido un largometraje y tener una compañía de producción o de publicidad”.
¿Cuál ha sido tu reto más grande? “Poder distinguir entre la buena y la mala crítica para mejorar”.
¿Qué te gusta de la universidad? “Me gusta mucho la gente, los profesores. El campus es muy bonito, crea un ambiente muy padre para aprender”.
¿Si pudieras cambiar algo de la universidad, qué harías? “Más estacionamiento y mejorar la rotación de cursos en el departamento de Comunicación para que los estudiantes puedan graduarse a tiempo”.
¿Qué les aconsejarías a los estudiantes de nuevo ingreso? “Elijan una carrera que realmente los apasione y échenle muchas ganas. El dinero vendrá después; cuando haces algo que te gusta das lo mejor de ti. Y por último, no cambies la universidad por un trabajo porque luego es más difícil volver y terminar la carrera”.
Anécdota: “Una vez tuve que filmar en las

calles de Brooklyn las escenas de acción de un cortometraje por tres días. Solicitamos permiso al departamento de policía de Nueva York para usar pistolas con balas de salva y para contar con la presencia de oficiales de policía en el rodaje. Cuando los peatones ven policías junto a la escena saben que todo está en orden y que no es una balacera real. Sin embargo, por falta de tiempo no pude recoger el permiso de la última noche. Yo necesitaba grabar la escena así que decidí seguir adelante sin permiso ni policías. Poco después, llegó un policía. Parecía apurado y pidió ver mi permiso. Le enseñé el del día anterior y me disponía a explicarle cuando me dijo que prosiguiera con cuidado ya que en el vecindario había ocurrido un robo a dos cuadras y un homicidio a tres. Luego se marchó rápidamente. No nos dejó muy contentos lo que pasaba en los alrededores pero logramos concluir el rodaje y disfrutar del cielo de medianoche en Manhattan”.

--Recopilado por Luciana Morales

ITECC

Continued from Page 1

others on campus.”

Also in the works to be offered at ITECC would be student support staff, such as advising and financial assistance, he said.

Plans are for the Communication Department to be “the flag bearers,” said department chair and Associate Professor Sharaf Rehman. The department would be able to benefit from available technical work area, such as a television studio.

“The university has plans of putting a TV studio there,” Rehman said. “It was supposed to serve two purposes. One, we will teach our TV production and broadcasting classes there, plus we will make that facility available to the community. So, if someone had wanted to produce a TV commercial, someone had wanted to make an instructional video, they could rent that facility from us, and our students would man that production and we would produce something for a client, if you will.”

Several things must first be considered before the department moves to ITECC, which would be a ways off, Rehman said. The department would only like to move if it could move all at once, in order to keep departmental cohesiveness. Other concerns would be travel and scheduling for students who would move back and forth between the two campuses.

“We have some challenges about student schedules and so forth,” Artibise said.

“At a minimum, we would try to do it in such a way that a student--were they in the situation where they have to take some courses at Fort Brown and some at ITECC--where they only have to move once a day, take mornings here and afternoons there.”

Some concerns have also been raised if the move is best for the students. An issue with moving a department that offers general education requirements is the impact it could have on underclassmen, said Communication Associate Professor Louis Falk, who cited the department’s success with SPCH 1315. The course deals with public speaking and university preparedness.

“Here’s the bad perception: You’re already moving developmental, but now you’re going to move the freshman experience course,” Falk said. “Now, that’s against the concept of that course, because in that course you’ll actually have to do things like university services that’ll help you graduate. ... You move this over there, and part of this is using university services in that course, where they have to do presentations on using university services and they help them get along and graduate. There’re no university services over there, so I think that’s an issue.”

The university preparedness side of the course has shown to have had as much of a 20 percent increase on retention rates for students after the course, he said.

“We’re talking about a sense of isolationism for freshmen,” Falk said. “Studies have shown that if you get them involved in a campus environment more

and more, then they have something invested and they meet friends and they meet other people. They get mentors and that kind of stuff, and then they want to come back. But, if you put them in a place where they’re by themselves, you’ll have that issue where they’ll not want to come back.”

The provost said that moving is still only under consideration and that he would not be moving the department if a majority of the professors had objected.

“It’s not a completed deal at this stage,” Artibise said. “We still need to do some due diligence about how everything will work and additional renovations that would be necessary to accommodate the faculty offices and the chair’s office and so forth.

“If there had been strong resistance to [moving the department to ITECC], I probably wouldn’t be doing it.”

He sees the move as a positive step toward a time when ITECC will be better integrated into the campus community.

“I come from a huge campus where there’s a five-minute drive when you’re on the same campus,” Artibise said. “We really need to get it in our minds that ITECC is not far away. We are actively working on plans for a shuttle service between two campuses. There’s all kinds of advantages to being at the ITECC campus; there’s no parking charge there, you can always find a place.”

Other ways to fill the space are being explored. One way, Rehman said, is to offer more courses out of the facility; a course he mentioned was the Communication

Department’s film appreciation, which is open for audit to the community.

“I think if we offer this class over there at 7:30 in the evening, we would not only attract our regular students who take class over there, we get some people from the community who may want to take the class not for credit, but just audit,” he said. “And over there, we have large classrooms where we can seat 130 people. So, we’re not running a movie to 15 people in a classroom; if there are seats for 130, why not have 130 people?”

“We’ll even try and do this on experimental basis in the summer; if that works, we might try and do this in the fall also.”

While the television studio still needs proper lighting and some electrical issues to be fixed that amount to between \$200,000 and \$500,000, he said that the television studio could also be utilized before it is complete.

“We don’t have a studio as such, but we can use it as a rehearsal studio,” Rehman said. “We also teach courses in performance, not just theater acting, but performance. In mass media, in broadcasting, if you want to be on television, in movies, you have to learn to perform before a microphone. You have to perform to a camera or three cameras. ... Whatever the case may be, broadcasting requires a lot of performance, and since we do not have a TV studio to train people to perform on microphones and on cameras, the next best thing we can do is to teach acting for stage.”

Enroll

Continued from Page 1

counted, a total of 13,930 are enrolled for this semester, an 8.10 percent rise from the 12,725 registered in Spring 2009.

Villarreal attributes the surge in enrollment to the lack of jobs available in the community and a different marketing strategy that the university has implemented.

“As a result, [the economy is] really encouraging our community to pursue an education ...,” he said. “We are trying to make sure that across campus we have a template that can be identified. Our logo has been re-evaluated. We no longer have the tombstone, so we are making some progress in the sense that the contributions and our marketing efforts and our processes are really intertwining in a more effective and efficient manner.”

Before, each department would create its own logos and fliers, which would set back recruitment efforts, but now, UTB/TSC has “created an integrated marketing committee that merely reviews and approves all new advertising,” Villarreal

said.

To reach the hoped for 5 percent enrollment increase for Fall 2010, Villarreal said retention will play a big role. Students Involving, Networking and Guiding (STING) classes and Foundations of Excellence are ways UTB/TSC is helping improve retention.

“Ethel Cantu, the associate [vice president] for Academic Affairs, and Vince Solis, [the associate vice president for Student Affairs] are spearheading a new self-study of our first-time students, which is called the Foundations of Excellence,” Villarreal said. “We’re hoping to identify certain weaknesses out of that project and hoping within six to eight months to implement some outcomes. In addition to that, Student Affairs has increased the amount of student learning assistance. They have restructured and [improved] the STING classes that they have.”

To accommodate further growth and prevent lags in registration, new software called Sun ONE is being tested to aid the connection between people registering for classes via the Web and to the Datatel Colleague system, which houses Scorpion

Online.

“That’s possibly where the delay is coming in, not so much with the Datatel but with the link of how the individual is getting to Datatel and Datatel getting back to the person,” said Gerald Alexander, Information Systems director for Administrative Computing and Enterprise Resource Planning.

A program that simulates 100 to 200 users simultaneously accessing Datatel is being used to test Sun ONE, said Gus Barreda, director of Administrative Computing and ERP.

One of the firewalls protecting the system has been replaced, he said, in order to eliminate any delaying effects it would have had.

Datatel’s 24 hard drives are also being tested.

“We are also going to make some changes to the way the disk drives are balanced, and by that I mean: are we hitting one disk more often than we are the other ones?” Barreda said. “If one of them is failing there, it’s going to affect the throughput.”

The number of licenses has been identified as one contributor to registration

delays on Scorpion Online. It begins to slow down as 720 licenses allow 360 students, faculty and staff to simultaneously hit the enter key at the same time, letting them gain access to the system’s features.

“We pretty much are sure we need more licenses,” Barreda said. “That’s pretty much a no-brainer.”

Before anything is presented to the administration, all analyses must be completed because licenses cost \$1,000 apiece, an upgrade to Datatel would cost \$75,000, and a replacement would be about \$800,000, Alexander said.

Furthermore, the future growth of the institution must be kept in mind.

“We have to make that decision very wisely and systematically determine that is what we need to hold us for the next four or five years,” Barreda said.

He hopes, however, that something will be implemented by June.

“That’s what we’re shooting for,” Barreda said. “Actually, we are shooting to do something by April, but things move a bit slowly sometimes.”

SGA

Continued from Page 3

time as the budget could be confirmed.

“I was looking to have a bankroll from SGA, which would mean that they would cover all expenses for the show,” said Dingbats Productions President Arthur Gonzalez. “I showed up to the executive board meeting, the EB meeting, and we had come to the conclusion that no ticket sales would be charged, and in turn, they would take care of the expenses for the show.”

While the show’s total cost would be at most \$2,000, Gonzalez said he is trying his hardest to minimize costs and that he may be able to reduce the cost to about \$1,400.

“I think we cannot afford \$2,000 at this moment,” Guerra said.

Though the senate had some ideas for funding, the consensus was to table the resolution for later discussion.

Passed by unanimous vote was Resolution 28, which calls for the allocation of \$550 for the purchase of 100 T-shirts for students participating in Scorpion Challenge.

“Scorpion Challenge is a campaign to promote service learning and community service by students at UTB/TSC,” said Senator at Large Jorge Muñoz. “It is a joint venture between the Office of Student Life and the Center for Civic Engagement. The goal of this campaign to get students involved in their community through volunteering in different projects hosted under Scorpion Challenge. In exchange for volunteering and logging in 25 hours of service through the President’s Volunteer Service Award Web Site, students will receive one free T-shirt with the Scorpion Challenge Artwork.”

When questions arose about the allocation, Guerra supported the resolution, saying, “this is good, this is what we are supposed to be doing, supporting community service.”

The atmosphere was cooperative and

unified as Lizeth Becerra was sworn in as a senator for the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology.

“I’m very interested in joining you,” Becerra said. “I want to be more involved with my school; I want to represent the student body.”

In other business, the SGA was invited by Campus Activities Board treasurer Michael Quiñones to participate in supporting the UTB/TSC Baseball Team during its home games over Spring Break.

“During Spring Break, we’re going to have baseball games almost every day,” Quiñones said. “I would like to know if SGA would like to participate in it with the Campus Activities Board.”

De la Fuente said, “I already had plans with [Assistant Director of Student Life] Eloy Alvarez to be out there. I know you guys have a booth. ... [Vice President of Historical Archives] Stephanie [Villarreal] and I will definitely this Saturday be out there.”

Earlier in the meeting, de la Fuente created two ad hoc committees: one that would support school spirit and another that would assist in making course evaluation more student-centered.

“[The spirit committee] will support events that celebrate student activity, student organizations and, of course, the athletes of our campus,” she said. “The course evaluation committee ... will research ... the significant difference of the evaluation forms of our professors and they will compare it to the other University of Texas System schools, and the purpose is for the students of this campus to have more input into how the professors of this campus are nominated.”

Appointed to head the spirit committee is Villarreal; Muñoz heads the course evaluation committee.

The SGA’s next meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m. Thursday in the Student Union’s Salon Gardenia.

Pitcher up



MANUEL REYNA/COLLEGIAN

Scorpion pitchers practice on March 11 on Scorpion Field for their upcoming games during Spring Break. The Scorpions faced Fisher College at home on March 13, 14 and Wednesday; Valley City State University, on Tuesday and Thursday; and Concordia-Nebraska on Thursday. Results were unavailable at press time March 11. Game 1 of their next road series is Saturday at 1 p.m. against Texas College, with Game 2 to follow. Game 3 of the series will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday. Another road series will be held April 2 and 3 against Huston-Tillotson University. Game 1 is at 6 p.m. April 2, and Game 2 is at noon April 3, with Game 3 to follow.

A season in review: men’s soccer

By David Boon
Staff Writer

The UTB/TSC Men’s Soccer Team was an anomaly during the 2009 season: It did not tally a loss, yet it was not the NAIA national champion.

The team finished the season with a 17-0-2 record, having been knocked out of the opening round of the NAIA National Tournament on penalty kicks to Biola University.

As impressive as making it to nationals is, the season started off humbly, with early struggles against old rival Huston-Tillotson University.

“To be honest, the first game of the season, we really played poorly against Huston-Tillotson,” Head Coach Dan Balaguero said. “We beat them 2-1, and then the second game we struggled a little bit against St. Thomas University. We started kind of slow, to be honest, but I think that can happen when a bunch of new players come in and they’re trying to get used to the system and everything, but by the end of the season, we started to really kick on a little bit.”

And did they ever kick! It was a season of firsts for the Scorpions, who raked in their first win against an NAIA top-ranked

team in a match against Southern Nazarene University.

“That was a game that was a really big win for us, and we won it in really convincing fashion as well, to win 5-1,” Balaguero said. “That was a game that really restored confidence in us and gave us a lot of belief that we could beat anybody.”

From there, the Scorpions defeated the University of Mobile and tied with Belhaven University, heading into conference play with no signs of slowing down; then, they tallied another eight wins to bring their three-year Red River Athletic Conference standings to 22-0.

“It’s not easy; every time someone plays us, it’s like a final for them,” Balaguero said. “We’ve run the table [in conference] for three straight years, we have to be ready every day, so again, that’s credit to the players. I don’t know how they’re playing everyone and getting the job done day in and day out, so the score for the conference game was very impressive.”

By this time, the team had already swept onto the NAIA top 25, reaching as high as 14 and finishing up at 15.

“I think that, when we really take things into perspective and realize that there’s only been a program here for three years, that’s not a bad start,” Balaguero said.

“We’ve got to be realistic here and realize that we haven’t lost a conference game in three years. We were top 15 in the country and seeded six in the national tournament; for a program that’s only been around three years, that’s a lot of credit to the players.”

After the conference tournament, the Scorpions got their first chance to host a national tournament game Nov. 21 at the REK Center field. With the score tied at 2-2, Biola University took the edge on penalty kicks and the home team dropped out of the tournament.

“We expected to beat Biola, to be honest,” Balaguero said. “We went to the game fully expecting to win, as we have done pretty much all season, so we were disappointed with that game. I thought we played really well, as well as them. We just gifted them two goals, and we missed numerous chances. ... When it went to penalties, it went to a coin toss; it just wasn’t meant to be for some reason.”

But with such a bright 2009 season, the team can only have high sights for the 2010 season.

“I’m not being arrogant or anything, but the conference is no longer enough for us; we want to win a national tournament,” he said. “I’m not saying we’re going to win one, but that’s the goal. ... The goal here is

to get to the final four, and I don’t think it’s unrealistic, as well. We’ve got six seniors, we’ve got three or four great freshmen coming in, all the other guys that have been to two national tournaments. So, I think we have a chance.”



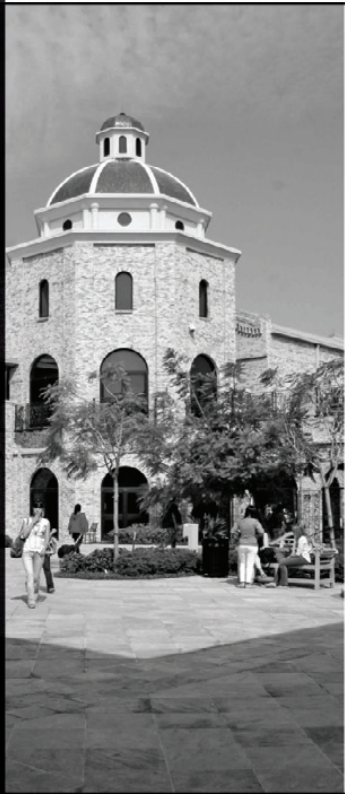
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FINANCIAL AID WEDNESDAYS

Get help completing the 2010–2011 FAFSA!

February 3, 10, 17 and 24 • 5–8 p.m.
Tandy Hall 213

March 3, 10, 24 and 31 • 5–8 p.m.
Tandy Hall 213

The UTB/TSC Financial Aid Office will provide assistance to students completing the 2010–2011 Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

Get help filing your 2009 IRS income tax return for FREE!

February 3, 10, 17 and 24 • noon to 8 p.m.
Tandy Hall 213

The United Way of Southern Cameron County and the Wal-Mart Foundation will provide all students free income tax preparation services using the Beehive Tax Tool Bus.

COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY

February 21 • 2–4 p.m.
Tandy Hall lobby

The UTB/TSC Financial Aid Office will provide students information on 2010–2011 financial aid and scholarships, and assistance with financial aid applications.

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College
For more information, contact the Financial Aid office at (956) 882-8277.



campus recreation

Women's Wellness Week

fit to be fabulous

An exercise class geared toward teaching women how to stay fit through their 50-plus years!

week schedule

women on weights Monday, March 29, 11 a.m. – Noon and 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 30, 11 a.m. – Noon and 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Women on weights will be held at the REK fitness floors. Limited spaces available. Register at upper fitness desk.

women's health fair Wednesday, March 31, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Women's Health Fair will be held at the REK social space. No registration necessary.

fit to be fabulous Wednesday, March 31, Noon – 1 p.m.
Fit to be Fabulous will be held at REK Center court 1. No registration necessary.

For more information, contact us at 882-5971.

women on weights

Women on Weights is designed to increase the number of women engaging in resistance training by introducing, demonstrating, and training women on a variety of exercises designed to enhance the participants' overall strength, flexibility and cardiovascular health.

women's health fair

A health and wellness promotional event geared toward women's health.

UTB TSC

Financial Aid Deadlines for 2010-2011



GO FOR THE GREEN AND GET THE GOLD

RED LIGHT

Don't get caught in this situation! You may have to wait until spring 2011 to enroll if you cannot make payment arrangements before the deadline. Oh no!!!

If you apply after June 1, 2010, you may not receive an award in time for fall 2010 payment deadline. You should prepare to pay your tuition and fee charges with personal funds or select a payment plan. Emergency loan funds are very limited. Make arrangements with the Business Office early.

YELLOW LIGHT

Caution-hurry, hurry, hurry!

If you apply between March 2, 2010, and June 1, 2010, your award may be ready by the payment deadline (if eligible).

If you receive an e-mail notice that you are selected for verification, please provide requested documents within two weeks after receiving notice, but no later than June 1, 2010. Your awards may be ready by the payment deadline.

GREEN LIGHT

You're ready to go! Check your e-mail often.

Complete your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) between January 1, 2010, and March 1, 2010, to ensure that your awards will be ready by the payment deadline (if eligible). If you receive an e-mail notice that you are selected for verification, please provide requested documents within two weeks after receiving notice.

NATIONAL FARMWORKERS AWARENESS WEEK

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 26 to April 2, 2010

Friday, March 26
National Cesar Chavez Blood Drive
9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Cardenas Hall South, 101

Monday, March 29
C.A.M.P. Open House and Breakfast
8:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Cardenas Hall North, 104
Visit C.A.M.P. and meet staff and students.

Tuesday, March 30
9 a.m.
Palm Grove Elementary
C.A.M.P. students will visit with elementary migrant students to share their stories and read from books about migrants.

Wednesday, March 31
Cesar Chavez Memorial March
11 a.m.
Student Union
This march will recognize the 43rd anniversary of Cesar Chavez's pilgrimage from Delano to Sacramento in California. It will honor the memory of Cesar Chavez and the struggles of farmworkers. Meet in front of the Student Union.

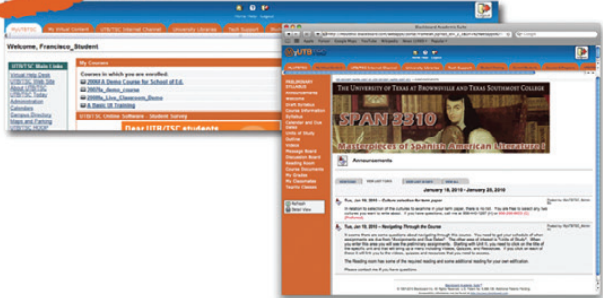
Thursday, April 1
Lo que dices cuenta (migrant student forum)
6 p.m.
Science, Engineering & Technology Building Lecture Hall, 3rd floor

Friday, April 2
Fiesta de la Cosecha
6 p.m.
Lincoln Park (C.A.M.P. students and family)



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Online Course Content



Preliminary Syllabus



Intranet Organizations



Discussion Board



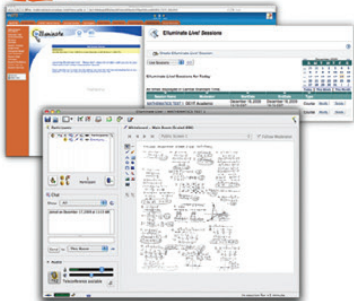
Safe Assign



e-Portfolios



Online Videoconferencing



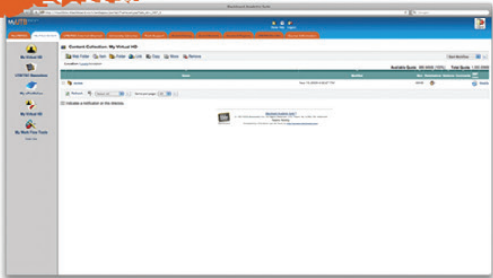
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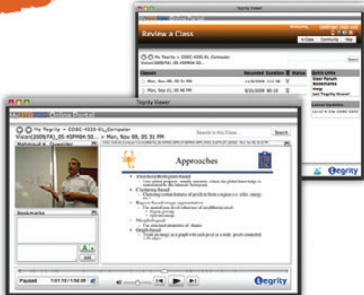
Academic Continuity Plan



Virtual Hard Drive



Class Video Capture



Second Life



Blogs and Wikis



MyUTBTSC Virtual Kiosks



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